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1864. After putting himself on record as strongly desiring to get rid of Butler and put Smith in his place, Grant suddenly suspended the order, already issued, depriving Butler of command, and at the same time removed Smith. Mr. Rhodes conjectures that it was all due to "some hold" which Butler had secured on Grant, which was employed in so unscrupulous a manner as to overawe the latter.

"Perhaps he joined together, in a Mephistophelian manner, the failure of the campaign, the popular horror at the waste of blood, seemingly to no purpose, and the general's relapse from his rule of total abstinence; perhaps he told Grant that as a Confederate corps under Early was now threatening Washington, to the exasperation of the people of the North, the commander of the Union armies needed a friend who had a powerful control of public sentiment, and that he was not so secure of his position that he could afford to refuse the proffered aid of Butler, which was his for an equivalent" (pp. 495-496).

The interest of this explanation is enhanced by the fact that it might suggest a clue to the unravelling of another mystery later in Grant's career. In connection with the effort of President Johnson to get rid of Secretary Stanton, just before the impeachment, General Grant took a step which thwarted the President's plan. Grant's action was at once declared by Johnson to involve a flat violation of a pledge deliberately given by the general. That such a pledge had been given was asserted in the most explicit terms by five members of the cabinet—men whose word was worthy of absolute confidence. But Grant, on the other hand, met the accusation of bad faith with a simple and unqualified denial that he had ever made the promise in question. The issue of veracity stands complete, and to this day undetermined, with odds of six to one against Grant. At the time of this remarkable controversy Butler was the leader in fact of the Republicans in Congress, soon to become, at the death of Thaddeus Stevens, the leader in name as well. Among the adversaries of President Johnson he was easily the fiercest. In the party at large he was naturally very influential. The availability of Grant as a candidate for the presidency in 1868 was under active discussion. Can it be that Butler played Mephistopheles again, and as in 1864 moulded the will of his victim, though now rather through the promise of a splendid gain than through the threat of a frightful loss? It is to be hoped that when Mr. Rhodes reaches the proper point in his narrative he will throw all possible light on this strange incident.

WM. A. DUNNING.

*The Civil War on the Border.* A Narrative of Military Operations in Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, and the Indian Territory, during the years 1863-65, based upon Official Reports and Observations of the Author. By WILEY BRITTON, late of the War Department. Vol. II. (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1899. Pp. xxiii, 546).

AMONG the Missourians who enlisted in Kansas regiments during the

Rebellion, and the number of them was considerable, we find the author of *The Civil War on the Border*. He joined the Sixth Cavalry, and the "Observations" upon which the history is partly based were made during the author's service in this regiment, which lasted from 1861 to 1865. At an early date he began a chronicle of the important events that came under his notice. In 1882 a portion of this diary, the rest of it having been destroyed by some unlucky accident, was printed with the title, *Memoirs of the Rebellion on the Border, 1863*. Subsequently the author had occasion to travel extensively in the region which he calls the Border and he embraced the opportunity to gather from survivors of the Rebellion whatever information they could give in regard to it.

Mr. Britton devotes himself mainly to military operations in the field. One would scarcely know from reading his book that the bitterest feuds were raging meanwhile among the Unionists. In Missouri the "Claybank" faction fought the "Charcoal" faction, and in Kansas Senator Lane gave Governor Robinson and his successor no end of trouble. General Schofield makes it clear in his *Forty-Six Years in the Army* that he had quite as much to fear, while he was in command of the Department of Missouri, from certain professed Unionists as from the avowed Secessionists.

Nothing decisive happened upon the Border during the war. Relatively the military operations there were of a secondary character. Of those which fall within the period covered by Mr. Britton's second volume, the most important were Shelby's foray, the Price raid, the Red River campaign and the Camden expedition which terminated in the disastrous battle of Poison Springs, where "the First Nigger bucked to the Twenty-Ninth Texas"—and bucked with very unsatisfactory results.

Undoubtedly the distinctive features of the struggle on the Border were furnished by the guerrillas and bandits. Nowhere else in the country did the peculiar style of warfare which they followed have any such vogue as in the western counties of Missouri, and Mr. Britton naturally devotes considerable space to them.

The guerrillas commonly had a loose organization, were often commanded by an officer with a Confederate commission, and operated in bands ranging in number from one to three hundred men. They moved rapidly from point to point, attacked escorts and trains, made an occasional dash into Kansas, and kept the country in a state of constant turmoil and alarm. In 1863, under the lead of the notorious Quantrill they destroyed Lawrence, Kansas—an event which Mr. Britton discusses at length and which may be considered the high-water mark of border savagery during the Civil War.

If the guerrillas were bad enough, the bandits surpassed them in genius for evil. Among the latter there seem to have been a good many original desperadoes. At all events the inhumanity of their style of warfare can hardly be exaggerated. With little or no organization, and commonly operating in small squads, they fired from ambush upon Union scouts and

couriers as well as upon private citizens whose politics they did not approve. They supplemented robberies and spoliations with abductions, tortures and murders. These outlaws, who set at naught all the ordinary laws of warfare, were hunted down like wild beasts, and, if caught, dispatched without mercy. It is said that the prowess and heroism exhibited in penetrating into their hiding-places in Western Missouri rivalled the adventures of Diomedes and Ulysses, "in entering the Trojan camp by night and slaughtering Rhesus and his companions." Yet our author is not insensible to the presence of pathetic elements in this pitiless business. Stumbling upon the dead body of a bandit near camp one day he pauses in his *Memoirs* to moralize on the gruesome incident. "I have no inclination to make a funeral oration over him, yet I will venture to remark that there is a sad thought connected with his lonely and obscure grave, for he has fallen in a cause that can never receive the sympathy of men fighting for justice and equal rights."

Mr. Britton has written a relatively dispassionate and judicial book. This is all the more surprising when we remember that he was an avowed abolitionist, a Kansas cavalryman, and that his parents, who remained in Missouri, suffered heavily at the hands of the Confederates. "I hope that I have not given in a single case," he says in his *Memoirs*, "an extravagant and sentimental account. . . . I am perfectly aware that a work filled with highly-colored statements is more greedily read . . . than one containing plain solid facts; yet I do not regret the course I have followed." While Mr. Britton may not have any signal felicities of style; while he may sometimes fail in matters of perspective and in the estimate of relative historical values, yet three cardinal excellences appear everywhere in his narrative—clearness, directness and sincerity.

LEVERETT W. SPRING.

*The Santiago Campaign*, 1898. By Major-General JOSEPH WHEELER, Commanding Fourth Corps, U. S. A., late Commander of Cavalry Division in Santiago Campaign. (Philadelphia: Drexel Biddle. 1899. Pp. xvii, 369.)

*The War with Spain*. By HENRY CABOT LODGE. (New York: Harper and Brothers. 1899. Pp. 276.)

*Reminiscences of the Santiago Campaign*. By JOHN BIGELOW, Jr., Captain 10th U. S. Cavalry. (New York: Harper and Brothers. 1899. Pp. vii, 188.)

*The Rough Riders*. By THEODORE ROOSEVELT, Colonel of the First U. S. Volunteer Cavalry. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1899. Pp. xi, 298.)

A GENIAL figure on the American stage is Major-General Joseph Wheeler. Ever youthful, ever vigorous, his simple manliness stands forth from these pages as it did from his activity at Santiago. After graduating at West Point in 1859 and serving two years, he joined the